

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. - 3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The method for transmitting image information according to claim 2, wherein the name or code number of a person performing the imaging who acquired said digital image is further added to said digital image information.

5. - 7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting image information comprising the steps of:

imaging an object by using a digital camera means so that a digital image of said object is acquired;

subjecting said acquired digital image to an image falsification prevention treatment, said image falsification prevention treatment comprising a step of embedding an electronic watermark in said digital image;

said embedded electronic watermark including longitude and latitude information received from a GPS, standard time information, air temperature, humidity, illumination, intensity of ultraviolet radiation, altitude, air pressure, wind velocity, degree of cleanliness, and sound;

transmitting a digital image which has been subjected to said image falsification prevention treatment and information corresponding to digital image acquisition conditions of said acquired digital image via communications means;

receiving the digital image which has been subjected to said image falsification prevention treatment and information corresponding to said digital image acquisition condition of said digital image;

checking the received digital image to detect a presence of falsification;

storing said received and falsification checked digital image in a memory; and

outputting the received and falsification checked digital image and information of the digital image acquisition condition to a display screen,

wherein the step of outputting further includes a step of displaying an enlarged portion of the digital image beside the digital image on the same display screen when said enlarged portion is designated on said display screen.

9. (Previously Presented) The method for transmitting image information according to claim 8, wherein said object is welded and a welded part of said object has been subjected to a penetrant test processing or a magnetic particle test processing and said welded part is imaged in the step of imaging.

10. (Currently Amended) The method for transmitting image information according to claim 8, wherein ~~said image falsification prevention treatment is embedding an electronic watermark in said digital image, and said embedded electronic watermark includes at least one of~~further comprises the place and time where said object was imaged, the person who performed the imaging, and information relating to the environment at the place where said imaging was performed.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) The method for transmitting image information according to claim 9, wherein defects in said welded parts are detected by subjecting said digital image to image processing.

13. - 38. (Cancelled).